



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANT: Oliver Heid

SERIAL NO.: 09/929,730 GROUP ART UNIT: 3737

FILED: August 14, 2001

TITLE: "MAGNETIC RESONANCE TOMOGRAPHY APPARATUS AND METHOD EMPLOYING A TRUE FISP SEQUENCE WITH IMPROVED OFF-RESONANT BEHAVIOR OF TWO SPIN ENSEMBLES"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant requests that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AA United States Patent No. 5,668,474 .
AB United States Patent No. 5,627,469 .
AC United States Patent No. 5,541,514 .
AD United States Patent No. 4,769,603 .
AL German OS 199 31 292 .
AM German OS 199 01 763 ✓
AN German OS 198 36 612
AO European Application 0 745 865

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The above references were cited by the German Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the German application corresponding to the present United

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States application. For the references that are in English, no further commentary concerning their teachings is necessary.

Reference AL corresponds to co-pending United States Application Serial No. 09/610,947, filed July 6, 2000, and Reference AN corresponds to co-pending United States Application Serial No. 09/365,904, filed August 3, 1999. Both of those applications are pending in Group Art Unit 2862, and are assigned to the same Assignee (Siemens AG) as the present application. Applicant assumes the Examiner has access to those co-pending applications, and therefore has not burdened the present file with duplicate copies. If the Examiner nevertheless would prefer that copies be provided, the Examiner is requested to notify the undersigned counsel for the Applicant and copies will be submitted.

Reference AM corresponds to United States Patent No. 6,310,478, however, United States Patent No. 6,310,478 does not itself qualify as prior art against the subject matter of this application. A copy of United States Patent No. 6,310,478 is submitted herewith for use as a translation of Reference AM, however, Applicant does not contend that it is a literal translation of Reference AM.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application, and therefore, this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.



Submitted by,

Steven H. Noll

(Reg. 28,982)

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Attorneys for Applicant.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 16, 2002.

Steven H. Noll

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